

Appln No. 10/712,601

Amdt date March 28, 2005

Reply to Office action of January 12, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for assisting a user with the proper printing of postage indicia onto labels in rolls of labels in a label printer, the ~~system~~ method comprising:

providing a roll bearing pre-printed labels for printing with postage indicia, the roll having a plurality of label sets, each with a leader portion and a label body, where each leader has a serial number which is the same as a serial number located on its corresponding label body; and

providing interactive computer software that guides a user to confirm that the serial number on the leader portion matches a label serial number in the software.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of label sets are positioned on a carrier.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~system~~ method permits the user to correct the serial number in the software prior to printing the postage indicia.

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4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the software queries the user as to a range of serial numbers to be pre-printed with postage indicia onto a range of label bodies.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the software has error control features which at least one of warns a user if a serial number entered into software is an invalid number, warns a user if the number of label bodies on the roll of labels to be printed are less than a number of labels a wishes to print with postage indicia, and will automatically feed a leader portion back into a printer if a user decides not to print labels with postage indicia.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the leaders of each label set are adjacent to their respective label body.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the plurality of label set are positioned in a spaced apart orientation on the carrier.

8. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein each leader comprises a separate label element that is positioned on the carrier adjacent to its corresponding label body portion.

9. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein each leader comprises a portion of the carrier adjacent to its corresponding label body upon which is printed the same serial number.

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10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the serial number is located horizontally on the leader portion, and the serial number is located vertically on the label body.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the serial number is located horizontally on both the leader portion and the label body.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the leader portion is divided into a serial number bearing portion and a supplemental information bearing portion.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 13~~ A method for assisting a user with the proper printing of postage indicia onto labels in rolls of labels in a label printer, the method comprising:

providing interactive computer software that guides a user to confirm that a serial number on a label in a roll of labels to be printed with postage indicia matches a label serial number in the software, wherein the ~~system~~ method permits the user to correct the serial number in the software prior to printing a label with postage indicia.

15. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 13~~ A method for assisting a user with the proper printing of postage indicia

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onto labels in rolls of labels in a label printer, the method comprising:

providing interactive computer software that guides a user to confirm that a serial number on a label in a roll of labels to be printed, wherein the software queries the user as to a range of serial numbers of labels to be printed with postage indicia.

16. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 13~~ A method for assisting a user with the proper printing of postage indicia onto labels in rolls of labels in a label printer, the method comprising:

providing interactive computer software that guides a user to confirm that a serial number on a label in a roll of labels to be printed, wherein the software has error control features which one of at least warns a user if a serial number entered into software is an invalid number, warns a user if the number of labels in a roll of labels to be printed is less than a number of labels a wishes to print with postage indicia, and will automatically send a message to a printer to withdrawn a label back into the printer if the user decides not to print labels with postage indicia.

17. (Original) A roll of labels for further printing with postage indicia, comprising:

an elongate carrier; and

a plurality of pre-printed label sets on the elongate carrier, each pre-printed label set comprising a label body and

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a leader, wherein each label body and leader bears the same unique serial number.

18. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 17, wherein the leader of each label set is adjacent to its respective label body.

19. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 17, wherein the serial number is located horizontally on the leader, and the serial number is located vertically on the label body.

20. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 17, wherein the serial number is located horizontally on both the leader portion and the label body.

21. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 17, wherein the leader is divided into a serial number bearing portion and a supplemental information bearing portion.

22. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 17, wherein the label bodies are releasably attached to the elongate carrier.

23. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 17, wherein the leaders comprise labels which are releasably attached to the elongate carrier.

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24. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 17, wherein the leaders comprise areas of the carrier upon which are directly printed the serial numbers.

25. (Currently amended) A method for assisting a user with the proper printing of value bearing indicia onto labels in rolls of labels in a label printer, the ~~system~~ method comprising:

providing a roll bearing pre-printed labels for printing with value bearing indicia, the roll having a plurality of label sets, each with a leader portion and a label body, where each leader has a serial number which is the same as a serial number located on its corresponding label body; and

providing interactive computer software that guides a user to confirm that the serial number on the leader portion matches a label serial number in the software.

26. (Original) A roll of labels for further printing with value bearing indicia, comprising:

a plurality of pre-printed label sets on the elongate carrier, each pre-printed label set comprising a label body and a leader portion, wherein each label body and leader bears the same unique serial number.

27. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 26, wherein the leader portion of each label set is adjacent to its respective label body.

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28. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 26, wherein the serial number is located horizontally on the leader portion and the serial number is located vertically on the label body.

29. (Original) The roll of labels of claim 26, wherein the serial number is located horizontally on both the leader portion and the label body.